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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/882,748	CRANE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Benjamin C. Lee	2632	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Examiner's Amendment.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 15 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>02022005</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mary Banzagni on 2/2/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

I. In the specification:

1) on page 1, line 5 and page 6, line 11, insert --(US patent 6,255,948)-- after "09/203,449";

2) on page 1, line 8 and page 6, line 23, insert --(US patent 6,549,131)-- after "09/684,851".

II. In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device comprising:

(a) a carrier substrate having a length; and

(b) security detection features disposed on at least one surface of the carrier substrate,

wherein the security detection features comprise:

(i) an optionally repeating pattern of: discrete [metal and magnetic]

metal/magnetic indicia formed using detectable metal and magnetic materials;

and

discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia,

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- (ii) optionally, at least one metal strip extending along the length of the carrier substrate, and
- (iii) optionally, a plurality of metal dots formed on at least one surface of the carrier substrate,
- wherein the discrete indicia are not connected to adjacent indicia by metal or magnetic materials used to form the indicia.
2. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 1 , wherein the carrier substrate is a transparent carrier film.
3. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 1, wherein the discrete [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia comprise at least one of geometric shapes, letters, numbers, alphanumeric characters and symbols.
4. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 1 , wherein the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia comprise at least one of letters, numbers, alphanumeric characters, symbols and metal or metal-dot regions which surround and define clear indicia.
5. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 1, wherein the discrete [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia and the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia form a repeating pattern extending along the length of at least one surface of the carrier substrate.
6. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 1, wherein the security detection features further comprise at least one metal strip extending along the length of at least one surface of the carrier substrate.

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7. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 6, wherein at least a portion of at least one [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia overlaps at least a portion of at least one metal strip.
8. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 6, wherein the security detection features further comprise a first and a second metal strip extending longitudinally along a top and a bottom region of at least one surface of the carrier substrate,
9. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 1, wherein the security detection features further comprise a plurality of metal dots located on remaining metal-free regions of at least one surface of the carrier substrate.
10. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 1 , wherein the [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia are multi-layer, [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia which include a metal layer disposed on the carrier substrate, and a magnetic layer disposed on the metal layer.
11. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 10, wherein the multi-layer, [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia include a second metal layer disposed on the magnetic layer.
12. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 1, wherein the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia are formed by solid metal.
13. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 1, wherein the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia are formed by a plurality of closely spaced metal dots.
14. (currently amended) A [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device comprising:

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(a) a carrier substrate having a length; and

(b) security detection features disposed on at least one surface of the carrier substrate,

wherein the security detection features comprise:

(i) an optionally repeating pattern of:

discrete [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia formed using detectable metal and magnetic materials and in the form of geometric shapes; and

discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia, wherein the indicia comprise at least one of letters, numbers, alphanumeric characters and symbols,

(ii) at least one metal strip extending along the length of the carrier substrate, and

(iii) optionally, a plurality of metal dots formed on at least one surface of the carrier substrate,

wherein the discrete indicia are not connected to adjacent indicia by metal or magnetic materials used to form the indicia.

15. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 14, wherein the carrier substrate is a transparent carrier film.

16. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 14, wherein the discrete [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia and the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia form a repeating pattern extending along the length of the carrier substrate.

17. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of at least one [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia overlaps at least a portion of at least one metal strip.

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18. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 14, wherein the security detection features comprise a first and a second metal strip extending longitudinally along a top and a bottom region of at least one surface of the carrier substrate.

19. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 14, wherein the security detection features further comprise a plurality of metal dots located on remaining metal-free regions of at least one surface of the carrier substrate.

20. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 14, wherein the [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia are multi-layer, [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia which include a metal layer disposed on the carrier substrate, and a magnetic layer disposed on the metal layer.

21. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 20, wherein the multi-layer, [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia include a second metal layer disposed on the magnetic layer.

22. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 14, wherein the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia are formed by solid metal.

23. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 14, wherein the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia are formed by a plurality of closely spaced metal dots.

24. (currently amended) A [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device comprising:

(a) a carrier substrate having a length; and

(b) security detection features disposed on at least one surface of the carrier substrate,

wherein the security detection features comprise an optionally repeating pattern of:

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(i) discrete [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia formed using detectable metal and magnetic materials, wherein the indicia comprise at least one of letters, numbers, alphanumeric characters and symbols; and

(ii) discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia in the form of metal or metal-dot regions which surround and define clear indicia,

wherein the discrete indicia are not connected to adjacent indicia by metal or magnetic materials used to form the indicia.

25. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 24, wherein the carrier substrate is a transparent carrier film.

26. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 24, wherein the discrete [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia and the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia form a repeating pattern extending along the length of the carrier substrate.

27. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 24, wherein the [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia are multi-layer, [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia which include a first metal layer disposed on the carrier substrate and a magnetic layer disposed on the first metal layer.

28. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 27, wherein the multi-layer, [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic indicia further include a second metal layer disposed on the magnetic layer.

29. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic security device of claim 24, wherein the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia are formed by solid metal.

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30. (currently amended) The [metal and magnetic] metal/magnetic device of claim 24, wherein the discrete metal or metal-dot formed indicia are formed by a plurality of closely spaced metal dots.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claimed metal/magnetic security device of multiple security detection features disposed on a carrier substrate comprising the multiple discrete, detectable indicia that are non-connected to adjacent indicia by metal or magnetic materials of the indicia, such that the discrete indicia are individually detectable by virtue of the indicia as well as the respective metal and magnetic characteristics constituting the multiple security features, is not sufficiently taught or suggested in the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin C. Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-2963.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon -Fri 11:00Am-7:30Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Benjamin C. Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2632

B.L.